Serial No.: 09/409,242

Filed: September 30, 1999

Page : 2 of 10

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system comprising: a processor supporting a pre-paid airline ticketing system; and

a storage device in communication with said processor and configured to store a record representing a pre-paid, fixed-price option purchased by a customer to be exercised by the customer to book a flight from among a plurality of flights offered by one of multiple participating air travel carriers of an advance-purchase of an airline ticket for a fixed price, the record including:

(i) a plurality of geographic flight parameters and a plurality of non-geographic flight parameters, at least one of the geographic flight parameters being unspecified and at least one of the non-geographic flight parameters being participating airlines available for selection by the customer for booking a flight to be utilized by a customer to book a flight on one of a plurality of predetermined flights available for the pre-paid airline ticket to be used; and

(ii) an identifier[[,]] associated with said and uniquely identifying the record for the customer to use to exercise the pre-paid, fixed price option to book one of the flights, uniquely identifying the pre-paid airline ticket.

a plurality of geographic flight parameters and a plurality of non-geographic flight parameters associated with said record, at least one of the plurality of geographic flight parameters being unspecified;

wherein a customer uses said identifier to book one of the predetermined flights via a communications network.

Serial No. : 09/409,242

Filed: September 30, 1999

Page : 3 of 10

2. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 wherein the identifier comprises an alpha-numeric sequence.

- 3. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of non-geographic flight parameters comprise a date, a time, a flight number, and a seat.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of non-geographic flight parameters further comprise one or more unspecified non-geographic flight parameters.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 4 wherein the one or more unspecified non-geographic flight parameters comprise a range of possible values from which the one or more unspecified non-geographic flight parameters may be selected.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of geographic flight parameters comprise a departure location and a destination.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 further comprising a dependence between two or more of the plurality of geographic flight parameters.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a maximum distance between the destination and the departure location.

Serial No. : 09/409,242

Filed: September 30, 1999

Page : 4 of 10

9. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a geographical region from which the departure location and the destination must be selected.

- 10. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a geographical region from which the departure location must be selected for a specified destination.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a geographical region from which the destination must be selected for a specified departure location.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 further comprising a wallet-sized card, the wallet sized card including a magnetic strip, the magnetic strip comprising an encoded representation of the unique identifier.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 further comprising a wallet-sized card, the wallet-sized card including a bar code, the bard bar code comprising an encoded representation of the unique identifier.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 further comprising a printed receipt, the printed receipt including a first part for presentation to an airline and a second part for a customer's records, the printed receipt including, in printed form, the unique identifier, the plurality of non-geographic flight parameters, and the plurality of geographic flight parameters.

Serial No.: 09/409,242

Filed: September 30, 1999

Page : 5 of 10

15. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 further comprising an electronic receipt, the electronic receipt including, in electronic form, the unique identifier.

16. (Currently Amended) The pre-paid airline ticket ticketing system of claim 1 further comprising an email receipt, the email receipt including, in electronic form, the unique identifier.

17-33. (Withdrawn)

34-75. (Canceled)